

Message Text

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46

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

DOT-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 L-02 PRS-01 PA-01

USIA-06 H-01 /035 W

----- 114656

R 311710Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3732

INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, PE

SUBJ: CIVAIR CONSULTATIONS - BRANIFF STATEMENT

REF: LIMA 831

1. ON HIS ARRIVAL IN LIMA MORNING OF JANUARY 29, BRANIFF VICE PRESIDENT SOUTH WAS MET BY BATTERY OF REPORTERS, INCLUDING TV CAMERAMEN AND, IN RESPONSE TO QUESTIONS, STATED BRANIFF'S POSITION. SOUTH HAS TOLD US THAT "EXPRESO" QUOTED HIM MOST ACCURATELY, AND ITS REPORT (JANUARY 30) IS AS FOLLOWS:

" BRANIFF WANTS TO CONTINUE COMMERCIAL FLIGHTS TO PERU.

"BRANIFF INTERNATIONAL HAS NOT ASKED, NOW WILL IT ASK, THE CANCELLATION OF ITS COMMERCIAL FLIGHTS TO PERU, BUT ON THE CONTRARY IT WISHES TO CONTINUE OPERATING, COUNTING ON THE COOPERATION AND THE PERMISSION OF THE PERUVIAN GOVERNMENT.'

" CHARLES S. SOUTH, VICE PRESIDENT OF BRANIFF FOR LATIN AMERICA, MADE THIS STATEMENT ON HIS ARRIVAL YESTERDAY.

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"SPEAKING AT AN IMPROVISED PRESS CONFERENCE WITH REPORTERS AT THE MAIN AIRPORT, HE SAID THAT HIS COMPANY HOPED TO CONTINUE ITS COMMERCIAL FLIGHTS TO LIMA AS IT HAS BEEN DOING FOR MORE THAN 46 YEARS.

" ' I AM OPTIMISTIC, AND I FEEL SURE THAT PERU AND THE UNITED STATES WILL FIND A HARMONIOUS SOLUTION.'

"ALTHOUGH HE SAID HE COULD NOT SPEAK FOR THE U.S. GOVERNMENT, HE SAID IT WAS HIS HOPE THAT THE GOVERNMENTS OF PERU AND THE UNITED STATES WILL QUICKLY AND FAVORABLY RESOLVE THE IMPASSE THAT HAS OCCURRED RECENTLY.

" ' THE TRUTH IS THAT WE NEED ONE ANOTHER.'

"ON THE OTHER HAND, HE SAID THAT HE WOULD ONLY REMAIN IN LIMA TWO DAYS AND WOULD AFTERWARDS GO TO RIO DE JANEIRO TO ATTEND A MEETING RELATED TO ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS INHERENT TO HIS DUTIES."

2. STORY WAS VARIOUSLY CARRIED BY LIMA PRESS, SOME UNDER MISLEADING HEADLINES. SOUTH TOLD EMBASSY OFFICERS HE WAS SURPRISED BY UNUSUALLY LARGE GROUP OF REPORTERS, WHO SEEMED TO HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR HIM, AND SAID HE SUSPECTED HIS ARRIVAL HAD BEEN SOMEHOW LEAKED TO THE PRESS.
DEAN

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